

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: :
Thomas G. Ference et al. :
Serial No.: New : Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: November 5, 2001 : Examiner: Unassigned
For: ULTRA-FINE CONTACT : Atty Docket: IBM: BUR919980202US2
ALIGNMENT : CBLH: 21806/0143

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(SUBMISSION WITH CONTINUATION-IN-PART OR RULE 1.53(b) CONTINUATION OR
DIVISIONAL APPLICATION)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

November 5, 2001

Sir:

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Patent Office are listed on the PTO-1449 form, attached hereto.

II. REFERENCES PREVIOUSLY CITED OR SUBMITTED

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), consideration of information listed on the PTO-1449 form is requested since any patents, publications, or other information which are listed on the PTO-1449 form but for which copies are not enclosed herewith, were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120:

U.S. Application No.

09/261,328

U.S. Filing Date

March 3, 1999

III. FEES

This information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrent with the filing of a continuation-in-part, continuation, or divisional patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS or requires a copy of any of the references cited but not provided, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to IBM Deposit Account No. 09-0456.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to IBM Deposit Account No. 09-0456 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: PTO-1449

FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATIONAtty Docket
BU9-98202Serial No.
To be assigned

Applicant

Thomas G. Ference et al.

Filing Date
HerewithGroup Art Unit
To be assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	AA	5,660,321	8/26/97	Ishida et al			
	AB	5,634,268	6/3/97	Dalal et al			
	AC	5,214,308	5/25/93	Nishiguchi et al			
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Trans-lation
	AL						Yes No
	AM						Yes No
	AN						Yes No
	AO						Yes No
	AP						Yes No

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR						
	AS						
	AT						

Examiner

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609.
 Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
 Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.